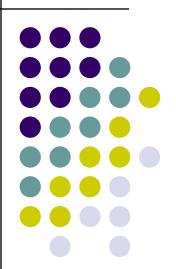
# Safety and Security for Travelers

Fulbright Program
June 2010

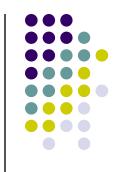






# **ACCEPTANCE PROTECTION DETERRENCE**





Gaining acceptance among stakeholders in your operational environment is directly related to your mission and positive perceptions of the image you project. Local perceptions are influenced by the type of work you do and the value they ascribe to it, your behavior and respect you show for cultural norms.

# Respect



- Recall someone from your life for whom you have the highest respect.
- 2. List three characteristics this person exhibits that warrant your respect.
- 3. How are these characteristics culturally linked?





In addition to plane tickets, passport/visa, cash/credit cards, list three things you absolutely must take when you travel internationally.

#### Must Takes



- First aid kit
- Flashlight and batteries
- Water and dry food
- Emergency contact information
- Extra passport photos
- Spare eyeglasses/prescription meds
- 3-day survival clothes in carry-on
- International cell phone
- Scan/photocopy important documents
- Others

# Personal Security



- AWARENESS
- VIGILANCE
- MITIGATION
- DEFUSION
- ESCAPE
- DEFENSE

#### Awareness



#### Awareness of what?

- Overall environment
- Your immediate surroundings
- How others perceive you
- Your limits, habits, strengths



### A higher state of alert, antennae up!

- Maintain an attentive attitude
- Look for warning signs
- Trust your senses

# Mitigation

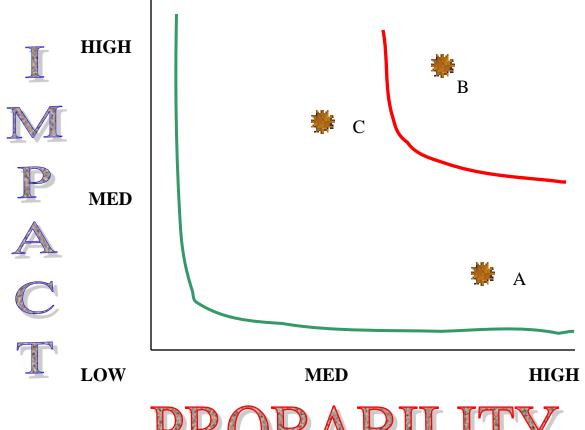
#### Act to reduce exposure to risk.

- Choose to avoid the situation.
- Reduce probability of occurrence.
- Reduce impact should event occur.



# Risk Analysis





PROBABILITY

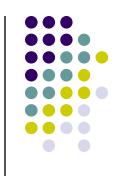




Take the fuse out of the bomb.

- Remain calm. Take a deep breath
- Give them what they want
- Reduce the tension
- Keep things from escalating

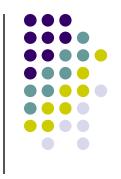




### Move to safety, not just away from danger.

- Identify a route to safety
- Commit to your decision
- Move expeditiously





#### Act to improve your chance of survival.

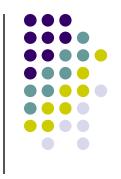
- Verbal (yell, cajole, assert yourself)
- Psychological (sick, defilement, act crazy)
- Physical (simple, precise, effective)





The Kong Republic is a developing country emerging from a decade of regional ethnic strife. You will be traveling to the Kong as a Fulbright scholar in two weeks for a six month posting.

#### Scenario 1



 What safety/security concerns do you have about this trip?

 Which specific measures will you take to prepare for this trip?

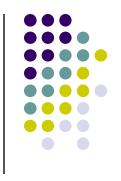




#### Take care of business at home

- Leave contact information
- Leave itinerary
- Power of attorney
- Pay bills
- Extra passport photos
- Notify credit card company
- Carry prescription meds
- Carry phone card/GSM phone
- Photocopy passport, credit cards, etc.

#### Before You Go



- Inform yourself about destination
  - Consult with staff and fellow students
  - Travel Information internet
  - Review project documents
  - Consult others who have been there
- Establish contacts at destination country
- Review University policies and support
  - Medical evacuation
  - Emergency contact numbers

## On Your Way



- Pack what you need
- Understand TSA restrictions
- Loose-fitting clothes
- Comfortable, sturdy shoes
- Survival items in carry-on
- Arrive in time for security checks
- Mark your bag (not with name or logo)
- Don't wear branded clothing
- Drink plenty of water





You arrive at Kong International Airport at 11:00 pm, several hours late, and there is no one there to meet you.

• What do you do now?





- Change money (\$20-40)
- Try to call contact at home
- Assess the situation
- Seek help from airport employees or uniformed personnel
- Join with others who are 'safe' (women, families)
- Be careful of unsolicited offers in English
- Choose a good hotel with shuttle
- Stay at airport until safer to leave

## **Ground Transportation**

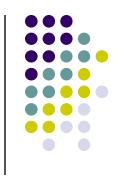
- Going rates metered or negotiated?
- Use official taxis
- Vehicle condition?
- Carry cell phone
- Carry small bills spread it out
- Always wear seat belt
- Travel in pairs
- Avoid night travel
- Keep bags with you
- If others are already in taxi, take another

#### At the Hotel

- Check it out. Walk around.
- Keep room number to yourself; ask hotel staff to do the same.
- Ensure telephone works
- Check out the room windows, locks, etc.
- Note fire exits and stairways
- Keep door locked
- Use room safe
- Meet visitors in lobby
- Going out TV on, Do Not Disturb, Lock
- Carry hotel business card







It's the weekend in Kong and the most offices will not be opened until Monday. You decide to venture out to the local artisans market on Saturday afternoon.

What personal safety precautions will you take?





- Inform yourself
  - Find out the local 'ground rules'
  - Get a map of the city/area
  - Read hotel safety card and check local media
- Go with someone else
- Carry the cell phone
- Let someone know your plans
- Remember taxi rules
- Dress modestly/appropriately
- Arrange currency





- Have a plan
- Be vigilant
- Use 'street smarts'
- Trust your instincts (Gift of Fear)
- Politely decline offers of assistance
- If you feel uncomfortable enter a commercial establishment and ask for help
- Realize your vulnerability when laden with bags and purchased goods
- Get back before evening





- Established boundaries that others negotiate as relationships develop and trust is built.
- Thresholds of intimacy are often culturally linked.
- The challenge is to maintain boundaries in a cross-cultural context while developing relationships.

